GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3423
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2002
BAN ON FISHING ACTIVITY
A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study had been undertaken before enlisting nine species of fish as endangered one and imposing ban under the Wildlife Protection Act during December 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any scheme/project for alternate livelihood to fishermen and to solve their problems before enforcing the above ban in all the States/Union Territories of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a)&(b)The decision to include nine species of elasmobranchs in Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 was based on the threat assessment made by the IUCN (World Conservation Union).

(c)&(d)The fishing data reveals that nine species constitute only a small proportion of total fish catch in the country and as such would not affect the livelihood of fishermen significantly.